

## OTHER KICKERS.

**Officers Not Satisfied With the Conduct of Prosecutor Kelly.**  
Two weeks ago two men were put in jail here charged with aiding Chas. Minton in making his escape. Supposing that it was only an effort on the part of the authorities to make it appear that they had caught somebody, the Kickers paid no attention to the matter.

Last week these men were up for preliminary hearing before Squire Cannon and were turned loose. There was much feeling over the matter and the prosecuting attorney was severely criticized by some because of the part played by him. But the Kickers have long ago learned that law and justice as dished out here is only a farce, and again ignored the matter.

At Kelso, Tuesday, a communication was handed me by Constable Drury and J. H. McLennan. Learning the contents I told them that it was in violation of the rules of the paper to publish such communications unless signed by the author. Both McLennan and Drury signed without hesitation and asked that it be handed to Sheriff Watkins for his signature.

"Watkins will not sign it," I said to them, positively.

"You bet he'll be glad to get to sign it, won't he?" said McLennan turning to Drury.

"You bet he'll sign it; he's hot," replied Drury.

"Bet you a dollar," said I.

"Oh, we'll bet you five on that. You ought to have heard him talk. He is getting out with the gang."

Not caring to win their money without giving them as much chance as they would have in a shell game I brought the communication to Benton and sent a reporter to the sheriff for his signature—explaining that it was the request of Drury and McLennan. After the reporter had read the communication to him the sheriff pronounced it a statement of facts, but refused to affix his signature.

The communication follows:

KELSO, MO., MAY 31, 1904.

**EDITOR KICKER:**—Last week the case of Reynolds and Lawson, the two men charged with aiding and assisting Chas. Minton in his escape, came up in Squire Cannon's court in Benton.

These men had no counsel, but seemed ready for trial. Sheriff Watkins testified that on the evening following the shooting of Leo Bollinger by Minton he and Constable Drury, of Kelso, approached Lawson's house, which is about 300 yards from Minton's house, and Lawson seemed very nervous. After a short conversation Lawson promised to bring Minton to them at the mouth of a wash about 100 yards from the school house which is between the houses of Lawson and Minton.

When the officers left for the appointed place Lawson said to them: "You see my shirt; is very careful," meaning that in case any shooting was necessary, he would shoot him. The sheriff and constable then followed themselves, together with Chap Wade and J. H. McLennan, at mouth of the wash and waited about two hours, but never saw nor heard a thing.

Watkins and Drury then went back to Lawson's house and, finding him there, asked why he didn't come. His answer was, "I went there two or three times and waited and yelled a dozen times as loud as I could." The designated place is within 250 yards of Lawson's house and had he made any outcry he would have been heard.

The foregoing is, in substance, the testimony of the sheriff, who was corroborated by Constable Drury. McLennan and Wade testified that nobody came to where they were waiting.

Prosecuting Attorney Kelly said that the above witnesses were mistaken in the place and had misunderstood Lawson.

Reynolds admitted that he took Minton off after the shooting—helping him up the hill to his (Minton's) house, went into the woods with him, had a talk, promised to come back that night and tell him about things and left him at the same place where Lawson promised the day following to bring him. Reynolds said that he did not know he was doing wrong, whereupon Mr. Kelly read some law and made it appear that ignorance excused Reynolds.

Said Mr. Kelly to the court, "I have no case whatever, according to the testimony given in. The court can hold them over if it wants to, but there is nothing against the gentlemen."

Of course, when Mr. Kelly pleaded so hard for the men, Squire Cannon could do nothing but turn them loose.

The foregoing is a statement of facts respectfully submitted to the people of Scott county.

(Signed) M. B. Drury, Constable Kelso township.

J. H. McLennan.

## FROM BLEDA.

Children's Day celebration at the Wythe school house, Sunday, was well attended and all had a pleasant time.

Miss Berta Wythe was agreeably surprised by a party of young friends from Oran on Friday of last week.

Mrs. L. Rush died of consumption on Monday of last week.

Leo Bollinger is reported as improving rapidly.

## KILLING AT GRAYSBORO.

**Thos. Blay Shoots Louis Hall in The Stomach.**

Saturday word reached here that Thos. Blay had shot and mortally wounded Louis Hall at Graysboro during the previous night.

Sunday morning a report reached the Kickers that Deputy Sheriff Wilson of Graysboro had brought Blay to jail. The Kickers had never heard of Deputy Sheriff Wilson, and since it is something out of the ordinary for a man who commits a serious offense to be arrested in Scott county, the editor started out to get particulars.

The first information gained was that Blay had voluntarily surrendered to Deputy Wilson. Next it was learned that Blay had been conducting a gambling joint in Graysboro, and that had blood had existed between Blay and Hall and other railroad men who, perhaps, had been losing money at Blay's game.

A Kickers reporter sought an interview with Mr. Wilson, and asked for the whole story. He said: "All I know is from hearsay. I was not present. There had been trouble between Blay and some of the switchmen, and on Friday morning Blay was behind the bar in Keese's saloon when Hall came in and started trouble. Blay went out the back way, and was standing in front of the saloon when Bob Jones came along on his way to the Cape. Keese said to him: 'Take Tom along and keep him out of trouble; they'll crowd him and he'll hurt somebody.' Blay got in the buggy and went to the Cape."

"What was Blay's occupation?"

"He's a gambler."

"Well, what happened next?"

"When Blay returned from the Cape that evening Hall started the trouble again, and Blay told him he would give him anything he had if he would drop it. Then they shook hands and made friends."

Later Hall came along and asked Blay and Charley Sherer to go down to a house-front of doubtful character just below Manning, and all went. Returning near midnight they stopped at the Manning saloon, drank some and left. When they got inside the corporation, the shooting occurred."

"Was Charley Sherer the only eyewitness?"

"Yes."

"What does he say about it?"

"He won't say anything and says he will not tell anything until put on the witness stand."

"What does Blay say about it?"

"He says that while they were walking along Hall stopped and said to him, 'Blay, I'm going to cut your g-d-d throat.'"

"Blay replied, 'For God's sake don't do that, Hall, for I have a wife and six children.' Then Hall rushed at him with a knife, and Blay shot him."

"What did Hall say?"

"He said that Blay shot him without provocation."

"Did Hall make a dying statement?"

"Yes."

"To whom?"

"To Mayor Hester and others."

"What did he say in that?"

"I was not present, but I understood he stated he was shot without cause."

"Where did Blay go after the shooting?"

"He went over to Thebes."

"Did anybody know when he went?"

"Oh, yes, he came and woke me and others and told me what he had done and where I could find him in case I wanted him."

"Did he return to this side to give himself up?"

"No, I went after him yesterday evening. I knew where to find him."

"Is there anything in the story that the switchmen were threatening to lynch him?"

"Well after I brought him over, I went down to the saloon and they wanted to know where he was and made some threats, but I told them that so long as he was in my charge I should protect him."

"Where was he then?"

"At home in bed with his wife."

"When did you take him out of Graysboro?"

"We left his home at 3 o'clock this morning and walked to Commerce. There we got Albert Ellis to bring us to Benton."

"How long have you lived at Graysboro?"

"Since October. I came from Cape county."

"Have you a family?"

"Yes."

"When were you appointed deputy sheriff?"

"Last Wednesday."

"It being near train time, Mr. Wilson left for the depot."

"To most people it will appear a little strange that a deputy sheriff should allow a man who has committed so grave an offense to go into another state without bond and without a hearing."

"Hall died Saturday night. He was about thirty years old and unmarried."

## FROM OAK GROVE.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ware were seen coming from Valley preaching Sunday.

The Misses Ella, Michael and Emma Wood visited Blodgett Friday.

Clint Graham and Miss Rubie Canada were married on the 18th.

There will be a basket dinner at Moore's chapel Sunday.

There was a musicale at Mr. Rollins Saturday night.

There will be preaching here on the 8d Sunday in June.

Mrs. Watts, of Ooster switch, visited here Sunday.

J. M. Primm is going to Illinois on a visit.

## ABOUT YAKOB'S WELL.

**A Costly Gold Brick—Court-house to be Enlarged.**

That no further effort will be made to increase the collection of hardware at the bottom of Yakob's well is now pretty certain. Of course, those not of the inner circle can get no inside information, and can only judge from passing events, but passing events indicate that the jig is up.

At the outset the county court appropriated \$1,500 with which to pay off a mortgage on the well outfield held by St. Francis county parties. Mr. Whitney being unable to do so, and for transportation. To secure itself, the county took a bill of sale on the outfit.

While here, one of the chief drillers estimated the outfit to be worth about \$450. The engine is old and worn out, and practically everything of value is in the hole, including tools bought or borrowed by the county since Mr. Whitney quit.

When Mr. Damon arrived he found parts of the mill engine missing. He found them on the well outfit and removed them. Now the engine won't go. And Mr. Damon deserves the thanks of the taxpayers of the county for having shut down the works and stopped the drain on the county treasury.

And while they were pounding six thousand dollars into this hole, the roads and bridges of the county were impassable. Between here and Kelso and in many other places are ruins and bridges that no one would try to cross if there was any way around. Chunks and old rails cover the holes in the bridges, and it is a wonder that many horses have not been crippled.

But the Scott county gang is as persistent as the gang at Jefferson City. They stop at nothing. At the last term of county court an appropriation of \$6,000 was made to build an addition to the courthouse, 40x75 feet, and the man who made such a success of the well is to boss this job also.

Bids were received on May 21, and in the last issue of the courthouse organ appears a notice that there having been no acceptable bids, bids for a \$4,500 addition would be received up to June 1.

Note that the size is reduced nearly one-half, and that only four days' notice is given in a paper of very limited circulation to secure bids on a \$6,000 job. Are we to understand from this that there is already an understanding, and that the notice is a mere formality? To a man up a tree it would appear that such a contractor should have been advertised for weeks in Cape Girardeau, Charleston, Cairo and other papers that contractors read.

Because the size of the building was reduced nearly one-half need not cause any hilarity among taxpayers. It is not likely that there will be anything left of the \$6,000 when the work is finished. Perhaps the original plans would not allow of heavy discounts at the bank.

But then we've got a wise, economical and business-like administration of affairs in Scott county—just as we have in Missouri. If it doesn't suit you, move out.

## REPUBLICANS MEET.

**And Nominate a Full County Ticket.**

Republicans of Scott county met at the court house in delegated convention, Saturday and nominated a full county ticket. Every township was represented and Dr. R. A. Sparks, of Blodgett, presided, while W. H. Hutten, of Commerce, acted as secretary.

The nominees are: H. W. Dodge, Commerce, representative; R. H. Querry, Sylvania, presiding judge of the county court; W. H. Tanner, Richwoods, associate judge for the first district; Charles Bertrand, associate judge for the second district; Tolbert Fink, Sylvania, sheriff; Henry Chitty Sylvania, collector; R. B. Heuchan, Commerce, treasurer; Albert Mantz, Kelso, assessor; S. H. Dewhirst, Sylvania, prosecuting attorney; J. W. Arbaugh, Commerce, surveyor; Dr. Story, Tywappity, coroner.

To those familiar with the personality of these men it must appear that it would be difficult for the Republicans to improve on the above ticket. The nominees are among the best citizens of our county.

With one or two notable exceptions the Democrats have also a very strong ticket and there is every reason to believe that conditions in Scott county are on the mend.

The Republicans selected Dan McCoy and Chas. Profit as delegates to the state convention and H. W. Dodge and W. H. Tanner as alternates. N. B. Cavanaugh and J. E. Congleton were chosen delegates to the Judicial convention.

The committee was organized by electing Dr. R. A. Sparks chairman, Jeff Primm, secretary and W. H. Tanner, treasurer.

Here comes a pretty story from New Madrid. In its last issue the Southeast Missouriian says of Senator Marshall: "He has used every endeavor to get the committee to set aside the actions of the various counties in nominating delegates to the convention and re-submitting the matter to the people in a general primary. He spent two or three days here last week vainly trying to get L. A. Lewis, the member of the committee from this county, to agree to do this, but could not succeed. Mr. Marshall saying he had the promise of two members of the committee to agree to the plan. Mr. Lewis was obstinate, saying he thought Mr. Faris had been declared the choice of the majority of the voters of the district, and he thought should have the nomination."

## SOUTHEAST NOTES.

The state fish hatchery will put the fry of trout and bass in our drainage ditches, and in a few years there will be good fishing therein—always provided that measures are taken to give the smaller fish a chance to grow. Pot-fishing for purposes of sale should be prohibited.

The "Sanctified People" in Bollinger county are in trouble. They allowed one of their number to die for lack of medical skill, which he asked for, but in which they do not believe. The state does, however, and proposes to hold somebody responsible.

Over four hundred drummers jubilated at Kennett the latter half of last week. Local opinion didn't planze them a bit, and "drummers' stories" are a drug on the Kennett market.

Henry Mayes of St. Francis county was shot and killed from ambush on the night of the 24th ult. The murderer and his motive are unknown.

Ed Robb got the renomination for congress in the 13th district by 1035 votes. Once in congress it's easy to stay there if you are a good wire-puller.

The St. Louis, Memphis & South-eastern and St. Louis & Gulf lines are to go under the general name of the St. Louis & San Francisco R. R.

Jas. H. Lester committed suicide at Esther, St. Francis county, on the 25th ult. by taking morphine and carbolic acid. Dependency.

There is a man in Charleston by the name of Bunton Pearson. Reverse his name and think how a bunton hurts when it is pressed on.

Judge Kohler, for twenty years Probate Judge of Cape county, died suddenly last week, much regretted by all who knew him.

There is talk in Caruthersville of boring for oil. Say, boys, we have a lovely dirt here you can probably buy dirt cheap.

The Socialists of Stoddard county will hold a convention Saturday of this week.

## FROM KELSO.

Kelso now has two meat shops. The old stand is run by Weismuller & Lauck, and a new place has been opened in the restaurant building, opposite the mill by Sever & Weismuller. Meat is plentiful and if we can only get the government to prevent consolidation, prices will remain reasonable.

Chris Heisserer says this thing of being a Democratic committeeman is no joke, and the next time he goes to Benton he is going to take a lunch along. He says he found the restaurant closed and could get nothing to eat on his visit there Saturday.

Donat Scherer was here Tuesday from Stoddard county. He says he will move his family back to old Scott after harvest.

There was a large attendance at church Sunday. Eighteen boys and nineteen girls took their first communion.

Mrs. Albert Mantz and Mr. Adam Burger spent Wednesday of last week in Benton, the guest of Mrs. Phil. Hafner.

Mrs. Mary Rosenberg and daughter and Leo Seyer came over from Stoddard county Friday to see the folks.

The Misses Dabs and Cook, of the Cape, were here last week and made application to teach the public school.

Wm. and Louis Dohogne are considering the matter of establishing a lumber yard at Edna.

Anthony Resell, of Iowa, younger brother to Frank and Florian Resell, is here on a visit.

Florian Resell says he would not offer his farm for sale if the roads were not so bad.

Jake Welter and family, of McMullin, came up Friday and returned Tuesday.

Mrs. A. Felter, who was injured by being thrown from a buggy, is improving.

Compas & Schank have the contract to cover the new barn for Gus Lux.

Leo Dohogne came down from the Cape to spend a few days with parents.

Matt Thomas is moving his belongings and his family to Ancell.

Wm. Burger, son of Adam Burger, is home from Texas on a visit.

John Blattel and Wm. Lauck spent Decoration Day at the Cape.

Mike Diebold is in St. Louis seeing the show and buying goods.

## FROM ORAN.

Our road overseers have done fine road work on the Benton road but, at best, it will only last until winter sets in. With the money that was sunk in the well at Benton the road could have been graveled and made permanently good.

The erection of a brick hotel is now under consideration. We wouldn't mind having the court house if there was any way to prevent the lawyers, the politicians and the corn-bread aristocracy that it breeds from coming with it.

The entertainment at the opera house Tuesday evening was very interesting. The parts were all well rendered and much credit is due the teachers and pupils of the parochial school.

Oran had the largest number of Republicans at the convention at Benton Saturday, and we captured the biggest end of the nominations.

The Aid Society was entertained on the 20th ult. by Mrs. John Davidson and on the 27th by Mrs. J. B. Finley.

Miss Blanch Finley has been employed to teach the Bryans school, and Mrs. Miller will teach at Randolph's.

In a few days our flour mill will shut down for repairs and get ready for the coming wheat crop.

George Stehr and family and Jake Stehr attended church at New Hamburg Sunday.

A meeting is in progress at the Bryans school house and much interest is taken.

J. O. Hess is making a model for a stump pulling machine invented by a Trump Martin.

Mrs. Theresa Faber, who has been visiting the family of J. O. Hess, has left for Desoto.

George Bechel is building a dwelling on lots bought from Frank McGraw.

Miss Rosa Helmbecher is visiting her brother, Rev. M. Helmbecher.

Rev. Lowry preached at the Baptist church Sunday.

Ed. Miller is in Cape county buying cows for his dairy.

Mrs. R. C. Forester is in St. Louis seeing the show.

Mrs. Sallie Dodge visited in Oran Tuesday.

FROM NEW HAMBURG.

Chas. Trinker and Miss Mary Bertrand were married here Tuesday. After services all went to the bride's home, where they were royally entertained. The attendance was very large.

Superintendent Andrew Essner reports the work on the new school building progressing nicely. Four teams are at work excavating and the concrete work will soon begin.

Mr. and Mrs. Hipes of Sandywoods, and Miss Mirtie Williams, and Mrs. Mary Annheim, of Cary, were here Friday.

Sunday was a great day here. Thirty-eight children took their first communion and there were many visitors.

Medames David Tesreau and John Schulte, of Fredericktown, arrived Friday and spent several days with friends.

It is reported that John Schlitt is busily engaged in tearing down hills along the road leading east from here.

Our young men have received several challenges to play ball. Can't we get up a nine boys?

The coat of paint that is being put on the church greatly improves its appearance.

A big boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Grasser Monday.

D. H. Harper, of Benton, was here Friday.

Peter Schoen was at Oran Thursday.

FROM CARY.

Misses Lulu Murrell and Nellie Hughes are home from a long visit to Stiketon friends, and the boys are glad.

## FROM MORLEY.

The Ladies' Aid will give an ice cream supper at the City Hall Friday evening, and YOU are invited.

P. H. Boyce, Joe Frobase and K. Smith attended the drummers' big racket at Kennett last week.

Misses Stella Harris and Deloma Shobo visited friends at the Cape Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Lala Mills visited her parents at Stiketon Friday and Saturday.

Some of our people attended the ball game at Commerce Sunday.

Mrs. Wright and sister of Oran visited Mrs. P. H. Boyce Sunday.

Roy and Maggie Congleton visited relatives at Benton Sunday.

Mrs. Leonard Campbell is visiting relatives and friends here.

C. P. Harris is visiting in Mound City, Ill., this week.

Mrs. Adams of Benton was here shopping Monday.

Vernon Elmore spent Sunday with Charleston friends.

Mr. Finley of Oran was here Sunday afternoon.

John Hunter went to the Cape Sunday.

FROM CROWDER.

The box supper Saturday night for the benefit of the church was well attended. A cake was voted to Miss Angie Riffers as being the best looking girl present, while C. Rickett got the pie.

Wm. Hudson and Geo. Norman attended the meeting of the drummers at Kennett last week.

Wm. Milford went to Commerce to meet his wife Sunday. She had been visiting in Illinois.

Miss Elsie Hudson is visiting her sister, Mrs. W. C. Wellman, on Paul Ridge.

Practicing for Children's Day here. Watch the Kicker—it will tell.

Ed. Childers moved his family from Stiketon to Crowder last week.

A boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Stanley Monday.

Mrs. Mary Mayes returned from Morehouse Sunday.

Grandma Urley, of Kelso, is visiting her daughter.

Miss Florence Cooksey visited in Oran Sunday.

FROM VANDUSER.

George Layton, who severely cut his leg while cutting logs, was taken to the Cape Sunday where he could have the best of treatment.

Mrs. S. J. Knibell and Miss Alpha Huffstutler, of Crowder, visited in Vanduser Saturday.

Rev. Hovde preached for us Sunday and promised to return the 2d Sunday in June.

We will have an ice cream and strawberry festival Saturday night.

Pink Wilson, of Richwoods, was here Saturday.

L. P. Woodward is back from the big show.

Mrs. R. J. Dabbs visited Morley Monday.

There is talk of another store here.

FROM CROSS PLAINS.

Many of our farmers are on the war path, and to see them fighting melon bugs reminds one of the Russo-Japanese war pictures we see in the papers. Where there are melons look fine.

The school board has re-employed Charley Harris to teach our school the coming season, and their action gives general satisfaction.

Romy Pate is now located with Squire Huffstutler, which, well, he don't have so far to go to see his girl.

Henry Branham was up from New Madrid to visit his family and reports plenty of water down there.

Uncle Henry Yeakey, of McMullin, was among us last week.

Bob Cannon has a new buggy. Now look out, girls.

T. N. Pate went to the Cape Monday.

FROM PORTER SWITCH.